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Diphoton resonances at the ILC

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In this paper, we study the direct production of the diphoton resonance X, which was suggested by 2015 data at the LHC, in $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma/XZ$ processes at the ILC. We derive an analytic expression for the scattering amplitudes of these processes and present a comprehensive analysis for determining the properties of X at the ILC. A realistic simulation study for $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ is performed based on the full detector simulation to demonstrate the capabilities of the ILC experiment. Complementary to the searches at the LHC, prospects for the measurement of the absolute values of the production cross section are obtained for the ILC using the recoil technique without assuming decay modes of X. In addition, we studied the searches for $X \to invisible$ and $X \to b\bar{b}$ modes, which are challenging at the LHC, and found that these decay modes can be discovered with high significance if their branching ratios are large enough.

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I. INTRODUCTION

At the end of 2015, both the ATLAS and CMS Collaborations reported an excess in the diphoton mass spectrum near $m_{\gamma\gamma} \simeq 750 \text{ GeV}$ by using the LHC data collected at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV [\[1,2\].](#page-12-0) Although the statistical significance of their findings has not been conclusive yet local (global) significances by ATLAS [\[1,3\]](#page-12-0) and CMS [\[2,4\]](#page-12-1) are 3.9 σ (2.1 σ) and 3.4 σ (1.6 σ), respectively—it has motivated many particle physicists to propose models for the physics beyond the standard model (SM) and to study their phenomenological implications to reveal the physics behind the observed excess [5–[7\].](#page-12-2) Since various scenarios to explain the observed excess have appeared, we are able to make only limited conclusions.

In this paper, we study the prospect of investigating the physics behind the observed excess, if it is indeed coming from some new physics, at the future International Linear Collider (ILC) experiment [\[8,9\]](#page-12-3). We restrict ourselves to the "standard" scenario where there exists a new particle X having a mass around 750 GeV and a coupling to a pair of photons, and we study the experimental methods for profiling X taking advantage of clean environments of electron-positron collider experiments [10–[13\].](#page-12-4) We also focus our studies on the e^+e^- collision instead of the $\gamma\gamma$ collision [\[10,11,14,15\]](#page-12-4) and on the associate production, $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ or XZ, despite the possibility of s-channel production through $e^+e^- \rightarrow X$ if X couples to $e^+e^$ directly [\[11,16\].](#page-12-5) Compared to the existing feasibility studies of X resonance at lepton colliders $[10,12,13]$, the new aspects in this paper pertain to the following two

points. First, we present a comprehensive theoretical analysis on the $X\gamma/XZ$ productions at the ILC taking into account the beam polarizations and angular distributions, which are useful for CP measurement. Secondly, we give results based on full detector simulation and realistic beam interactions. Complementary to the search at the LHC, we explore the measurement of absolute production cross sections as well as the partial decay widths of X using recoil technique, which are possible only at lepton colliders. Furthermore, we study the searches for $X \rightarrow$ invisible decay, which is interesting in the models where X is connected to dark matter, and for $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decay, which is very challenging to look for at the LHC.

It is worth emphasizing that even though the studies are done for the unconfirmed X resonance, the theoretical calculations and experimental methods developed in this paper are quite general and useful for studies at lepton colliders of any similar new particles which couple to diphoton. This paper can hence be considered as a case study for new particle search at the ILC. The paper is organised as follows. We introduce a theoretical framework in Sec. [II,](#page-0-3) and present analytic results for $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma/XZ$ in Sec. [III.](#page-2-0) Section [IV](#page-6-0) is devoted to realistic simulation studies at the ILC. We present the summary and conclusions of this paper in Sec. [V.](#page-10-0)

II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The coupling of a neutral boson to a pair of photons is naturally interpreted by loop diagrams of (the SM or new) particles which are charged under the $SU(2)_L$ and/or $U(1)_Y$ gauge groups of SM. In general, these also induce couplings to the other pairs of the bosons, such as $Z\gamma$, ZZ, and W^+W^- . In addition, if the internal particle is charged under $SU(3)_c$, a coupling to a pair of gluons is

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induced as well. Without specifying the details of the model for X, but keeping generality of the nature of X , we consider the effective couplings of X to the SM gauge bosons based on the effective Lagrangian which is invariant under the SM gauge groups. We consider X as a spin-0 parity-even or odd particle. However, in this study, we do not consider X as a spin-2 particle, since the realization of the model for a massive spin-2 particle compatible with the observed diphoton excess and the other LHC constraints requires details of the theory configuration, and the collider signatures at the ILC as well as at the LHC must depend on the details. See, e.g., Refs. [\[15](#page-12-6)–22] for studies of the spin-2 scenario.

In the case where X is a scalar (spin-0 parity-even), we define the effective Lagrangian,

$$
\mathcal{L}_{X_S} = -\frac{1}{4\Lambda} \left[c_1 B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} + c_2 W_{\mu\nu}^k W^{k\mu\nu} + c_3 G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} \right] X_S,
$$
\n(1)

where the field strength is defined as $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}F_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}F_{\mu} + \cdots$ for $F = B$, W^k , G^a , the gauge fields for $U(1)_Y$, $SU(2)_L$, and $SU(3)_c$, respectively. Summations for $k = 1, 2, 3$ and $a =$ 1; …; 8 are implicit. For simplicity, we have neglected the cubic and quadratic terms of the $SU(2)_L$ and $SU(3)_c$ gauge fields since these are irrelevant in this paper. We introduce a common cut-off scale Λ and coupling constants c_i for $i = 1, 2, 3$. In terms of the field strengths for physical states, $A_{\mu} = c_w B_{\mu} + s_w W_{\mu}^3$, $Z_{\mu} = -s_w B_{\mu} + c_w W_{\mu}^3$, $W_{\mu}^{\pm} =$ $(W^1_\mu \pm iW^2_\mu)/\sqrt{2}$, where the weak mixing angle is defined as $c_w = \cos \theta_w$, $s_w = \sin \theta_w$ with $s_w^2 = 1 - M_W^2/M_Z^2$, the Lagrangian can be re-written as

$$
\mathcal{L}_{X_S} = -\frac{1}{4\Lambda} \left[c_{\gamma} A_{\mu\nu} A^{\mu\nu} + c_{\gamma Z} A_{\mu\nu} Z^{\mu\nu} + c_Z Z_{\mu\nu} Z^{\mu\nu} + c_W W_{\mu\nu}^+ W^{-\mu\nu} + c_g G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{a\mu\nu} \right] X_S. \tag{2}
$$

The effective couplings for the physical states are given in terms of c_i and weak mixing angles as

$$
c_{\gamma} = c_w^2 c_1 + s_w^2 c_2, \tag{3}
$$

$$
c_{\gamma Z} = -2c_w s_w (c_1 - c_2), \tag{4}
$$

$$
c_Z = s_w^2 c_1 + c_w^2 c_2, \t\t(5)
$$

$$
c_W = 2c_2,\t\t(6)
$$

$$
c_g = c_3. \tag{7}
$$

The partial decay widths of X_S into gauge bosons are calculated in the Appendix.

For the pseudoscalar (spin-0 party-odd) case, the effective Lagrangian is given as,

$$
\mathcal{L}_{X_P} = -\frac{1}{4\Lambda} \left[\tilde{c}_1 B_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\nu} + \tilde{c}_2 W_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{W}^{a\mu\nu} + \tilde{c}_3 G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu} \right]
$$

=
$$
-\frac{1}{4\Lambda} \left[\tilde{c}_\gamma A_{\mu\nu} \tilde{A}^{\mu\nu} + \tilde{c}_{\gamma Z} A_{\mu\nu} \tilde{Z}^{\mu\nu} + \tilde{c}_Z Z_{\mu\nu} \tilde{Z}^{\mu\nu} + \tilde{c}_W W_{\mu\nu}^+ \tilde{W}^{-\mu\nu} + \tilde{c}_g G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}^{a\mu\nu} \right] X_P, \tag{8}
$$

where $\tilde{A}^{\mu\nu}$ is defined as $\tilde{A}^{\mu\nu} = 1/2 \cdot \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} A_{\alpha\beta}$. Similarly to the scalar case, the couplings \tilde{c}_i with $i = \gamma$, γZ , Z, W, g are given in terms of \tilde{c}_i with $i = 1, 2, 3$ in the same manner as with Eqs. $(3)–(7)$ $(3)–(7)$ $(3)–(7)$.

Within these effective Lagrangians, the production process of X at the LHC is the gluon-fusion process, $gg \to X$. Thus the event rate of $pp \to X \to \gamma \gamma$ is proportional to $\Gamma_{gg} \cdot \Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}/\Gamma_X$ where Γ_X is the total decay width of X. Γ_{qq} has to satisfy the constraint from the dijet resonance searches at the LHC, $\Gamma_{qq}/M_X \lesssim 10^{-3}$ [\[23\]](#page-12-7). By making assumptions on Γ_X , the values of Γ_{gg} and $\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$ are bounded by the size of the observed excess in the current data. We consider two benchmark scenarios (common for both scalar and pseudoscalar cases): one assuming a large decay width suggested by the current ATLAS analysis (BP1), and the other assuming a minimum set of the decay modes, $\Gamma_X \simeq$ $\Gamma_{gg} + \Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$ (BP2). As a typical value of $\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$, we obtain $\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}/M_X = 10^{-3}$ (10⁻⁵) in BP1 (BP2). Any value of Γ_X between the two benchmark points or even larger one can be assumed without conflicting current data. A short summary of the benchmark points is presented in Table [I](#page-1-2).

In BP1, the rest of the decay modes can be those to any other SM particles, such as the other pairs of the SM gauge bosons depending on the parameters in the effective Lagrangian given above, $l^+\ell^-, jj, b\bar{b}$, and $t\bar{t}$ within the constraints by direct searches of the resonance in these decay modes. Alternatively, it could be dominated by decays into invisible particles such as neutrinos or dark matter, which are poorly constrained at the LHC. Constraints on the branching ratios of $X \rightarrow Z\gamma$, ZZ, and W^+W^- by the LHC 8 TeV data put upper limits on the ratios of branching ratios to $X \to \gamma \gamma$ as [\[5,24\]](#page-12-2)

$$
\frac{\Gamma_{Z\gamma}}{\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}} \lesssim 2, \qquad \frac{\Gamma_{ZZ}}{\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}} \lesssim 6, \qquad \frac{\Gamma_{WW}}{\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}} \lesssim 20. \tag{9}
$$

It has been pointed out that the $Z\gamma$ mode gives the most stringent constraint on $r \equiv c_2/c_1$; only the region $-0.6 \lesssim$ $r \lesssim 6.4$ is allowed by the LHC Run-I data for both scalar and pseudoscalar cases.

TABLE I. Summary of the two benchmark points, BP1 and BP2.

	Γ_{qq}/M_X	$\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}/M_X$	$\Gamma_{\rm tot}/M_X$	Br_{qq}	$Br_{\gamma\gamma}$
B _{P1}	10^{-5}	10^{-3}	0.06	0.017%	1.67%
B _P	10^{-6}	10^{-5}	1.1×10^{-5}	9.1%	90.9%

III. $X(750)$ PRODUCTION AT THE ILC

In e^+e^- collisions, X can be produced via the following processes [\[10,12\]:](#page-12-4)

$$
e^+e^- \to \gamma^*/Z^* \to X\gamma,\tag{10}
$$

$$
e^+e^- \to \gamma^*/Z^* \to XZ, \tag{11}
$$

$$
e^+e^- \to e^+e^-X \quad (Z/\gamma \text{ fusion}), \tag{12}
$$

$$
e^+e^- \to \nu_e \bar{\nu}_e X \quad (W \text{ fusion}). \tag{13}
$$

In addition, $\gamma \gamma \rightarrow X$ production with the photon-photon collider option at the future lepton colliders has been examined in Ref. [\[14,15\]](#page-12-8).

We study processes [\(10\)](#page-2-1) and [\(11\)](#page-2-2) with the ILC experiment at the center-of-mass energy larger than 750 GeV. In the measurement of these processes at lepton colliders, X can be identified without looking at its decay products. It can be identified as a peak in the recoil mass distribution in the inclusive production of a hard photon or Z. By the searches using the recoil mass technique, the resonance can be identified even if it decays dominantly into invisible final states.

A. $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$

First, we calculate the scattering amplitudes for process [\(10\)](#page-2-1) analytically, to evaluate the total cross section as well as the differential distributions. Four-momentum and helicity of each particle are assigned as follows:

$$
e^-(k_1, \sigma_1) + e^+(k_2, \sigma_2) \to X_0(p_1) + \gamma(p_2, \lambda_\gamma).
$$
 (14)

The scattering amplitudes are calculated to be

$$
\mathcal{M}_{X_{sY}}(\lambda_V, \lambda_Y) = \frac{e}{\Lambda} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2}} \beta \lambda_V \frac{1 - \lambda_V \lambda_Y \cos \theta}{2} \mathcal{A}_Y(s; \lambda_V), \quad (15)
$$

where we define $\beta = 1 - M_X^2/s$,

$$
\mathcal{A}_{\gamma}(s; \lambda_V) = c_{\gamma} - \frac{c_{\gamma Z}}{2} \frac{c_V^e - \lambda_V c_A^e}{2c_w s_w} r_Z(s), \tag{16}
$$

and $r_Z(s) = 1/(1 - M_Z^2/s)$. The vector and axial-vector couplings of electron are $c_V^e = -\frac{1}{2} + 2s_W^2$ and $c_A^e = -\frac{1}{2}$, respectively. $s = 2k_1 \cdot k_2 = 2p_1 \cdot p_2 + M_X^2$ is the square of the total collision energy in the e^+e^- center-of-mass frame, and θ is the scattering angle in the laboratory frame. Without loss of generality, we set the azimuthal angle to zero, $\phi = 0$. $\lambda_V \equiv \sigma_1 - \sigma_2$ is the difference of the helicities of the beam electron and positron, and λ_{γ} is the photon helicity. λ_V can be ± 1 and 0, while $\lambda_\gamma = \pm 1$. For $\lambda_V = 0$, i. e., $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2$, the amplitude is zero. Summing over the helicity of the final-state photon, the scattering angle distribution is obtained to be

$$
\frac{d\sigma_{X_{sY}}}{d\cos\theta} = \frac{\alpha\beta^3}{16\Lambda^2} \frac{1 + \cos^2\theta}{2} |\mathcal{A}_{\gamma}(s; \lambda_V)|^2, \quad (17)
$$

for $\lambda_V = \pm 1$, where α is a fine-structure constant $\alpha = e^2/(4\pi)$. Finally, the total cross section is calculated to be

$$
\sigma_{X_{sY}} = \frac{\alpha \beta^3}{12\Lambda^2} |\mathcal{A}_{\gamma}(s; \lambda_V)|^2, \tag{18}
$$

for $\lambda_V = \pm 1$. Similarly, the scattering amplitudes for the pseudoscalar case is calculated to be

$$
\mathcal{M}_{X_{PI}}(\lambda_V, \lambda_\gamma) = i \frac{e}{\Lambda} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2}} \beta \lambda_V \lambda_\gamma \frac{1 - \lambda_V \lambda_\gamma \cos \theta}{2} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\gamma(s; \lambda_V),
$$
\n(19)

where A_{γ} is defined similarly to A_{γ} by replacing c_i to \tilde{c}_i . Since the structure of the scattering amplitudes is completely the same as that for the scalar case at the Born level, the differential distribution as well as the total cross section for the pseudoscalar case is obtained from those for the scalar case by replacing the coupling constants $c_i \rightarrow \tilde{c}_i$. The values of the coupling constants obtained by fitting the LHC diphoton resonance excess are also same for the scalar and pseudoscalar cases, thus we find no observable which can distinguish the parity of the resonance in $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ process.

In Fig. [1](#page-3-0), we show the total cross section of $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ for BP1 as a function of the collision energy. The cross section for BP2 is typically two orders of magnitude smaller than that for BP1. For $\lambda_V = 1$ the cross section is larger for smaller r, while for $\lambda_V = -1$ the cross section is larger for larger r. Thus, the effects of Z-mediated diagram can be clearly observed in the production rates with the polarized beams. In the case of $r = 0$ where X couples to the U(1)_Y gauge field only, the cross section is proportional to the square of the hypercharge of electrons. Therefore, $\sigma_{X\gamma}(\lambda_V = 1)/\sigma_{X\gamma}(\lambda_V = -1) = (Y_{e_R}/Y_{e_L})^2 = 1/4$. We note that the ratio of the cross section can be determined by experimental measurements without knowing the branching ratios of X, and the overall strength of the couplings. On the bases with physical boson states, the ratio is given as a function of $\alpha_1 \equiv c_{\gamma Z}/(2c_{\gamma})$,

$$
\mathcal{R}_{\gamma}(\alpha_1) = \frac{\sigma_{X\gamma}(\lambda_V = +1)}{\sigma_{X\gamma}(\lambda_V = -1)} = \frac{|1 - \alpha_1 \bar{c}_L^e r_Z(s)|^2}{|1 - \alpha_1 \bar{c}_R^e r_Z(s)|^2},\qquad(20)
$$

where $\bar{c}_{L/R}^e = (c_V^e \pm c_A^e)/(2c_w s_w)$. For the realistic situation of the beam polarization at the ILC, the ratio of the production rates for (P_{e^-}, P_{e^+}) = $(0.8, -0.2)$ to (P_{e^-}, P_{e^+}) = $(-0.8, 0.2)$ is given by

FIG. 1. Total cross section of $e^+e^- \to X\gamma$ for $r(=c_2/c_1) = -0.5, 0, 1, 2, 6$, as a function of the collision energy. Left: $\lambda_V = 1$, right: $\lambda_V = -1.$

$$
\bar{\mathcal{R}}_{\gamma}(\alpha_1) = \frac{\sigma_{X\gamma}[(P_{e^-}, P_{e^+}) = (0.8, -0.2)]}{\sigma_{X\gamma}[(P_{e^-}, P_{e^+}) = (-0.8, 0.2)]} = \frac{\mathcal{R}_{\gamma}(\alpha_1) + \epsilon}{1 + \epsilon \mathcal{R}_{\gamma}(\alpha_1)},\tag{21}
$$

where $\epsilon = 0.1 \cdot 0.4/(0.9 \cdot 0.6) \approx 0.074$. Thus, the ratio $\mathcal{R}_{\gamma}(\overline{\mathcal{R}}_{\gamma})$ is a good probe of the γZX interaction. For $\sqrt{s} = 1 \text{ TeV}, \quad \bar{\mathcal{R}}_{\gamma} \approx (1 - 0.91\alpha_1 + 0.30\alpha_1^2)/(1 + 1.18\alpha_1 +$ 0.44 α_1^2). By solving Eq. [\(21\)](#page-2-3), α_1 can be determined (up to a two-fold ambiguity), and $r = c_2/c_1$ can be further determined. In Fig. [2](#page-3-1), we plot \mathcal{R}_{γ} and $\bar{\mathcal{R}}_{\gamma}$ as a function of α_1 for $-10 < \alpha_1 < 10$.

B. $e^+e^- \rightarrow XZ$

Next, we consider the associate production of X with a Z-boson at e^+e^- colliders. With the γ ZX and ZZX vertexes introduced in the previous section, the process occurs at the Born-level through the s-channel diagrams:

FIG. 2. Ratios of the polarised cross sections as a function of α ; \mathcal{R} : purely polarised beams ($\lambda_V = \pm 1$); \mathcal{R} : $(P_{e^-}, P_{e^+}) =$ $(\pm 0.8, \mp 0.2).$

$$
e^-(k_1, \sigma_1) + e^+(k_2, \sigma_2) \to X_0(p_1) + Z(p_2, \lambda_Z). \tag{22}
$$

Scattering amplitudes for the scalar case are calculated to be

$$
\mathcal{M}_{X_S Z}(\lambda_V, \lambda_Z = \pm 1) = \frac{e}{\Lambda} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2}} \sqrt{\beta_Z^2 + \frac{4M_Z^2}{s}} \lambda_V
$$

$$
\times \frac{1 - \lambda_V \lambda_Z \cos \theta}{2} \mathcal{A}_Z(s; \lambda_V), \quad (23)
$$

$$
\mathcal{M}_{X_{S}Z}(\lambda_{V}, \lambda_{Z} = 0) = \frac{e}{\Lambda} M_{Z} \cdot \sin \theta \cdot \mathcal{A}_{Z}(s; \lambda_{V}), \qquad (24)
$$

and for the pseudoscalar case,

$$
\mathcal{M}_{X_P Z}(\lambda_V, \lambda_Z) = i \frac{e}{\Lambda} \sqrt{\frac{s}{2}} \beta_Z \lambda_V \lambda_Z \frac{1 - \lambda_V \lambda_Z \cos \theta}{2} \tilde{\mathcal{A}}_Z(s; \lambda_V),
$$
\n(25)

where

$$
\mathcal{A}_Z(s; \lambda_V) = \frac{c_{\gamma Z}}{2} - c_Z \frac{c_V^e - \lambda_V c_A^e}{2c_{w} s_w} r_Z(s),\tag{26}
$$

and A_Z is given by the same formulae as for A_Z after replacing c_i by \tilde{c}_i . $\beta_Z = \lambda(1, M_X^2/s, M_Z^2/s)$ with $\lambda(a, b, c) = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - 2(ab + bc + ca)}$. Note that the amplitudes for the longitudinal Z-boson production vanish for the pseudoscalar case. For the scalar case, the ratio of the longitudinal to transverse Z-boson production amplitudes is proportional to M_Z/\sqrt{s} .

The scattering angle distributions are calculated to be

$$
\frac{d\sigma_{X_sZ}}{d\cos\theta} = \frac{\alpha\beta_Z}{16\Lambda^2} \left[\left(\beta_Z^2 + \frac{4M_Z^2}{s} \right) \frac{1 + \cos^2\theta}{2} + \frac{2M_Z^2}{s} \sin^2\theta \right] \times |\mathcal{A}_Z(s; \lambda_V)|^2, \tag{27}
$$

$$
\frac{d\sigma_{X_P Z}}{d\cos\theta} = \frac{\alpha\beta_Z^3}{16\Lambda^2} \frac{1 + \cos^2\theta}{2} |\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_Z(s; \lambda_V)|^2.
$$
 (28)

FIG. 3. Total cross section of $e^+e^- \to XZ$ as a function of the collision energy for $r (=c_2/c_1) = -0.5, 0, 1, 2, 6$. Thick lines: X_s , thin lines: X_P . Left: $\lambda_V = 1$, right: $\lambda_V = -1$.

For the scalar case, due to the longitudinal Z-boson production the scattering angle distribution has a term which behaves as $\sin^2 \theta$. The scattering angle distributions can be written as $\alpha (1 + B\cos^2{\theta})$, where $B = \beta_Z^2$ / $(\beta_Z^2 + 4M_Z^2/s)$ for the scalar case, while $\beta = 1$ for the pseudoscalar case. Thus, the scattering angle distributions as well as their energy dependence can be used to distinguish the parity of the resonance, without seeing the decay products of the resonance. The total cross sections are given as

$$
\sigma_{X_{S}Z} = \frac{\alpha \beta_Z}{12\Lambda^2} \left(\beta_Z^2 + \frac{6M_Z^2}{s} \right) |\mathcal{A}_Z(s; \lambda_V)|^2,
$$

$$
\sigma_{X_P Z} = \frac{\alpha \beta_Z^3}{12\Lambda^2} |\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_Z(s; \lambda_V)|^2,
$$
 (29)

for the scalar and pseudoscalar cases, respectively. In Fig. [3,](#page-4-0) we plot the $e^+e^- \rightarrow XZ$ cross section for $\lambda_V =$ ± 1 assuming the BP1 couplings. Cross sections for the scalar and pseudoscalar cases are drawn in thick and thin lines for $r = -0.5$, 0, 1, 2 and 6. We find a large r dependence in $\sigma_{XZ}(\lambda_V = -1)$; those for $r = 0$ and $r = 6$ differ by almost two orders of magnitude. The ratio of the cross sections for polarized beams is given in a similar manner to the $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ process, with a replacement $\alpha_1 \rightarrow \alpha_2 = 2c_Z/c_{\gamma Z}$:

$$
\mathcal{R}_Z(\alpha_2) = \frac{\sigma_{XZ}(\lambda_V = +1)}{\sigma_{XZ}(\lambda_V = -1)} = \frac{|1 - \alpha_2 \bar{c}_L^e r_Z(s)|^2}{|1 - \alpha_2 \bar{c}_R^e r_Z(s)|^2},
$$
(30)

$$
\bar{\mathcal{R}}_Z(\alpha_2) = \frac{\sigma_{XZ}[(P_{e^-}, P_{e^+}) = (0.8, -0.2)]}{\sigma_{XZ}[(P_{e^-}, P_{e^+}) = (-0.8, 0.2)]} = \frac{\mathcal{R}_Z(\alpha_2) + \epsilon}{1 + \epsilon \mathcal{R}_Z(\alpha_2)},
$$
\n(31)

where $\epsilon = 0.1 \cdot 0.4/(0.9 \cdot 0.6) \approx 0.074$ $\epsilon = 0.1 \cdot 0.4/(0.9 \cdot 0.6) \approx 0.074$ $\epsilon = 0.1 \cdot 0.4/(0.9 \cdot 0.6) \approx 0.074$. In Fig. 4, we plot $\mathcal{R}_{\gamma(Z)}$ and $\bar{\mathcal{R}}_{\gamma(Z)}$ as a function of r. We find that for the allowed regions of $r, -0.6 < r < 6.4$, determination of r by \mathcal{R}_{γ} is not affected by a two-fold ambiguity, but that by \mathcal{R}_{Z} is affected for $r \lesssim 1$. Determination of r by the XZ process would be useful for the consistency check of the description based on the effective Lagrangian.

C. Lepton's angular distributions in $Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$

Furthermore, we consider the leptonic decays of Z-boson, and evaluate the angular distributions of the leptons. In the rest frame of Z-boson, decay angles of ℓ^- is denoted as $\hat{\theta}$ and $\hat{\phi}$, where $\hat{\theta} = 0$ (\hat{z} -axis) gives the direction of the Z-boson and $\hat{\phi} = 0$ (and π) lies in the scattering plane in the laboratory frame.

By defining the density matrices for the production and the decay of the final state Z boson as

$$
\rho_{XZ}(\lambda_V; \lambda, \lambda') \propto \mathcal{M}_{XZ}(\lambda_V, \lambda) \mathcal{M}_{XZ}^*(\lambda_V, \lambda'), \qquad (32)
$$

$$
\rho_{Z \to \ell^+ \ell^-}(\lambda, \lambda') \propto \mathcal{M}_{Z \to \ell^+ \ell^-}(\lambda) \mathcal{M}_{Z \to \ell^+ \ell^-}^*(\lambda'), \quad (33)
$$

the lepton's angular distributions are calculated to be

FIG. 4. Ratios of the polarized cross sections as a function of $r = c_2/c_1$ for $X\gamma$ and XZ productions. Blue: $X\gamma$ process, red: XZ process; Dashed: \mathcal{R} , solid: \mathcal{R} .

$$
\mathcal{D}(\lambda_V; \theta, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\phi}) = \frac{3 \sum_{\lambda, \lambda'} [\rho_{XZ}(\lambda_V, \lambda, \lambda') \cdot \rho_{Z \to \ell^- \ell^+}(\lambda, \lambda')]}{\int d\cos\theta \text{Tr}[\rho_{XZ}] \cdot \int d\hat{\Omega}_2 \text{Tr}[\rho_{Z \to \ell^- \ell^+}]} ,\tag{34}
$$

which satisfies

$$
\int d\cos\theta d\hat{\Omega}_2 \mathcal{D}(\lambda_V; \theta, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\phi}) = 1, \tag{35}
$$

with $d\hat{\Omega}_2 = d \cos \hat{\theta} d\hat{\phi}$. Up to the overall normalization, the density matrix for the leptonic decay of the Z-boson is obtained to be

$$
\rho_{Z \to \ell^- \ell^+}(\lambda, \lambda') = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1+\hat{c}^2 - 2\xi \hat{c}}{2} & \frac{\hat{s}(\hat{c} - \xi)}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\hat{\phi}} & \frac{\hat{s}^2}{2} e^{2i\hat{\phi}}\\ \frac{\hat{s}(\hat{c} - \xi)}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-i\hat{\phi}} & \hat{s}^2 & -\frac{\hat{s}(\hat{c} + \xi)}{\sqrt{2}} e^{i\hat{\phi}}\\ \frac{\hat{s}^2}{2} e^{-2i\hat{\phi}} & -\frac{\hat{s}(\hat{c} + \xi)}{\sqrt{2}} e^{-i\hat{\phi}} & \frac{1+\hat{c}^2 + 2\xi \hat{c}}{2} \end{pmatrix},
$$
\n(36)

where $\hat{c} = \cos \hat{\theta}$, $\hat{s} = \sin \hat{\theta}$, and we define

$$
\xi = \frac{2c_V^e c_A^e}{(c_V^e)^2 + (c_A^e)^2}.
$$
\n(37)

Integration of ρ_Z over the phase-space results in $\int d\hat{\Omega}_2 \rho_{Z \to \ell^- \ell^+} = 8\pi/3 \cdot \delta_{\lambda \lambda'}$. The production density matrix ρ_{XZ} is calculated by using the scattering amplitudes in Eqs. [\(23\)](#page-3-2)–[\(25\)](#page-3-3), and the lepton's angular distributions are then calculated to be

$$
\mathcal{D}_{S}(\lambda_{V}; \theta, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\phi}) \approx \frac{9}{128\pi} \left[(1 + \cos^{2}\theta)(1 + \cos^{2}\hat{\theta}) + 4\lambda_{V}\xi\cos\theta\cos\hat{\theta} + \sin^{2}\theta\sin^{2}\hat{\theta}\cos2\hat{\phi} \right],
$$
\n(38)

$$
\mathcal{D}_P(\lambda_V; \theta, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\phi}) = \frac{9}{128\pi} \left[(1 + \cos^2 \theta)(1 + \cos^2 \hat{\theta}) + 4\lambda_V \xi \cos \theta \cos \hat{\theta} - \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \hat{\theta} \cos 2\hat{\phi} \right].
$$
\n(39)

where $\mathcal{O}(M_Z^2/s)$ terms are neglected in the scalar case. For reference, explicit results can be found in the Appendix.

The critical difference between the two scenarios can be seen in the sign of the azimuthal angle dependent term, $\pm \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta \cos 2\hat{\phi}$. Integrating over θ and $\hat{\theta}$, and summing over the initial-state polarizations, we get

$$
\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_S(\hat{\phi}) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[1 + \frac{\mathcal{C}}{4} \cos 2\hat{\phi} \right],\tag{40}
$$

$$
\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_P(\hat{\phi}) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left[1 - \frac{1}{4} \cos 2\hat{\phi} \right],\tag{41}
$$

FIG. 5. Azimuthal angular distribution of $Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$ in $e^+e^- \rightarrow XZ$ for the scalar (S) and pseudoscalar (P) cases.

where $C = (\beta_Z^2 + 4M_Z^2/s)/(\beta_Z^2 + 6M_Z^2/s)$. Thus, observing the azimuthal angle distribution of the lepton in the Z-boson decays, one can determine the spin of the resonance X, without measuring its decay products. We note that since the distribution has only cos $2\hat{\phi}$ dependence, it can be obtained without distinguishing $l^-\text{ and }l^+$. It only depends on the angle between the scattering plane and the Z-decay plane. This means that the hadronic decays of Z-boson can be also utilised to see this distribution, which has much larger branching fraction than the leptonic decays.

In Fig. [5](#page-5-0), we plot the azimuthal angle distributions of leptons for the scalar and pseudoscalar cases. For the scalar cases, \sqrt{s} = 850 GeV, 1 TeV and 1.5 TeV are taken, which give $C = 0.7$, 0.92 and 0.99, respectively.

D. Experimental determination of X properties

At the ILC, using production processes of $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ and XZ , it is possible to determine the following properties of X :

- (i) mass,whichcan bemeasuredeither by recoiltechnique against γ via process [\(10\)](#page-2-1) or Z via process [\(11\)](#page-2-2) taking advantage of known initial state four-momentum at lepton colliders, or by direct reconstruction from decay particles, e.g., via $X \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$, gg.
- (ii) spin, which can be determined by looking at the angular distributions of X production as well as its decays.
- (iii) CP property, which can be determined in process (11) by measuring the angular correlation of the decay plane of the Z-boson and the scattering plane spanned by the beam axis and the tagged Z-boson momentum, without measuring the X decay products. The distribution of the azimuthal angle (ϕ) between the scattering plane and the Z-boson plane behaves as

$$
\frac{d\sigma}{d\phi} \propto 1 + \frac{\mathcal{C}}{4} \cos 2\phi,\tag{42}
$$

where $C = (\beta_Z^2 + 4M_Z^2/s)/(\beta_Z^2 + 6M_Z^2/s)$ for the scalar case, while $C = -1$ for the pseudoscalar case.

- (iv) total decay width (Γ_X) , which can be directly measured if it is large (with respect to detector resolution), or can be indirectly determined if it is small but having sizable branching fractions to $\gamma\gamma$, γZ , and ZZ, by using the recoil technique in a similar way to determining the Higgs total width, $\Gamma_X =$ $\Gamma(X \to VV)/Br(X \to VV).$
- (v) values of individual effective couplings to $SU(2)_L$ and $U(1)_Y$ gauge fields, which can be determined by measuring the dependence on beam polarizations for cross sections of processes [\(10\)](#page-2-1) and [\(11\).](#page-2-2)

IV. EVENT SIMULATION AND ANALYSIS

To demonstrate the capabilities of X studies at the ILC, a realistic simulation for $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ for BP1 for spin-0 and $r = 0$ has been performed with full detector simulation at $\sqrt{s} = 1$ TeV. The experimental studies for spin-2 case are expected to be quite similar. Three different modes to select X are considered, one without assuming particular decay modes (inclusive mode), the other two designed specifically for $X \rightarrow$ invisible and $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decays. The inclusive mode is based on recoil technique, taking advantage of known initial state four-momentum, by which the X invariant mass can be reconstructed using the recoil mass against γ as $M_{\text{rec}}^2 = s - 2\sqrt{s}E_\gamma$ where E_γ is the energy of reconstructed γ , henceforth X can be identified without looking at its decay particles. The modes for both $X \rightarrow$ invisible and $X \to b\bar{b}$ are straightforward at the ILC further by respectively requiring no significant visible energies other than that from γ or requiring two tagged b-jets, thanks to the clean environment at the ILC. The searches using these three modes are complementary to those at the LHC. The inclusive mode can give the measurement of absolute production cross sections for different beam polarizations. The $X \rightarrow$ invisible and $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ searches are very challenging at the LHC with current upper limits on partial widths of 400 and 500 times $\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$, respectively [\[5\]](#page-12-2). Searches using other modes such as $X \to WW$, ZZ, $\gamma\gamma$, γZ , or $t\bar{t}$ are not performed in this paper because they would be measured well at the LHC if they exist. The $X \rightarrow gg$ decay is not considered in this paper because with current constraints on Γ_{gg} and $\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$ the possible signal strength $\sigma(e^+e^- \to X\gamma) \times BR(X \to gg)$ at the ILC can not be very large.

It is worthwhile to point out that the realistic simulation based on full detector simulation considered in this paper is particularly important for $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ to reliably assess the prospects at the ILC, because of the following reasons. One of the main characteristics of $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ is the appearance of a monochromatic photon as assumed by many studies in the literatures. However, the beamstrahlung and ISR effects, which are included in this paper, would

FIG. 6. Mass spectrum of X by recoil mass against γ (solid, in red) and by invariant mass of decay particles (dashed, in blue) at the generator level, where large width of 45 GeV is assumed.

significantly modify the kinematics of final state particles. Furthermore, if the total width of X is as large as in BP1, implementation of the full Breit-Wigner structure for X in the matrix element becomes necessary, because it will also change significantly the recoil mass spectrum, which is shown in Fig. [6](#page-6-1) for process [\(10\)](#page-2-1). Regarding the background, in the inclusive mode, since the main event selection is about one photon, it is important to include all the SM background processes, any of which would survive because of the ISR effect. In the invisible search mode, it is more realistic to include the beam induced background, such as $\gamma \gamma \rightarrow$ low p_t hadrons which will be overlaid to every event including the signal. For the $X \rightarrow$ bb search mode, it is crucial to include full detector simulation to estimate the flavor tagging performance.

The analysis is performed for two different beam polarizations, $P(e^-, e^+) = (-0.8, +0.2)$ (namely left-handed, or eLpR) and $P(e^-, e^+) = (+0.8, -0.2)$ (namely righthanded, or eRpL). In both cases of beam polarizations, an integrated luminosity of 2 ab^{-1} is assumed.

A. Event generator and detector simulation

The generator for $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ is implemented using Physsim [\[25\],](#page-12-9) where the $X\gamma\gamma$ coupling as in Eq. [\(2\)](#page-1-3) is used, the full Breit-Wigner structure of X is taken into account in the matrix element,¹ and X decay into invisible or $b\bar{b}$ is considered. The generators for all background processes are obtained using Whizard 1.95 [\[27\]](#page-12-10), where all diagrams for $e^+e^- \rightarrow 2f, 4f,$ or 6f (where "f" stands for fermion) up to parton level are included. In both Physsim and Whizard, Pythia

¹We do not include the off-shell width effect of X in the amplitudes, since the off-shell decay width of scalar to vectorvector mode behaves $\alpha Q_X^3/M_X^3$ where Q_X is the virtuality of X, which violates unitarity at large Q_X [\[26\].](#page-12-11) This violation should be canceled if our effective field theory approach is replaced with the full theory which respects unitarity.

TABLE II. The cross sections (σ), the number of expected events (N_{exp}), and the number of generated events (N_{gen}) for signal and background processes for left-handed (eLpR) and right-handed (eRpL) beam polarizations as defined in the text.

Process		eLpR		eRpL			
	σ (fb)	$N_{\rm exp}$	N_{gen}	σ (fb)	$N_{\rm exp}$	N_{gen}	
Signal		3.1×10^{3}	2.0×10^{5}	4.9	9.8×10^{3}	2.0×10^{5}	
2f	1.2×10^5	2.4×10^{8}	2.3×10^{6}	1.4×10^{4}	2.9×10^{7}	2.3×10^{6}	
4f	2.7×10^{4}	5.4×10^{7}	6.9×10^{6}	1.3×10^{4}	2.6×10^{7}	6.9×10^{6}	
6f	6.9×10^{2}	1.4×10^{6}	5.0×10^{6}	2.4×10^{2}	4.8×10^{5}	5.0×10^{6}	

6.4 [\[28\]](#page-12-12) is used for parton shower, fragmentation, and hadronization. The beam spectrum, including the beam energy spread and beamstrahlung, is obtained by GuineaPig [\[29\]](#page-12-13) based on the beam parameters in TDR [\[30\]](#page-12-14). The initial state radiation (ISR) spectrum for both signal and background processes is implemented using the LLA structure function [\[31\]](#page-12-15). To take into account the pile-up of beam induced background events, every signal or background event is overlaid with 4.1 events of $\gamma \gamma \rightarrow$ low p_t hadrons hadrons on average [\[32\].](#page-12-16) The beam crossing angle of 14 mrad, which induces a common boost for every final state particle, is taken into account in the following step when the event is simulated. The total cross sections for signal and background processes are shown in Table [II](#page-7-0), together with the number of expected and generated events for both left and right handed beam polarizations. It is worth mentioning that the signal cross section gets reduced by 30% compared to the value given in Sec. [III](#page-2-0) by analytic calculation after beam spectrum, ISR, and Breit-Wigner structure are taken into account.

All the events from the above generators are fed into a detector simulator using GEANT4 [\[33\]](#page-12-17) in the Mokka software package [\[34\]](#page-12-18) based on the ILD detector [\[35\]](#page-12-19), which is one of the two proposed detectors at the ILC. The realistic ILD design as implemented in the ILD detailed baseline design (DBD) [\[32\]](#page-12-16) is taken into account. The simulated events are then reconstructed in the Marlin [\[36\]](#page-12-20) framework in ILCSoft v01-16 [\[37\],](#page-12-21) using realistic track finding, track fitting, clustering in calorimeters, and particle flow analysis. PandoraPFA [\[38\]](#page-12-22) is used for the calorimeter clustering and the particle flow analysis, which meanwhile provides photon identification for the following event selection. LCFIPlus [\[39\]](#page-12-23) is used for vertex finding, jet clustering, and flavor tagging, which is relevant in this study only for the $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ mode.

B. Event selection and results

1. Pre-selection

The general characteristics of signal events are an isolated hard photon with energy E_y ~ 220 GeV (namely primary photon), and a large recoil mass (M_{rec}) against that primary photon with $M_{\text{rec}} \sim M_X$. In the pre-selection, among all the photons identified by PandorPFA, the photon with energy closest to 220 GeV is selected as the primary photon candidate, and its energy is required to be larger than 50 GeV. Due to the fact that a hard photon is possibly reconstructed as several separated clusters by PandoraPFA, a merging procedure is carried out so that any photons within a small cone (cosine of the cone angle is 0.998) around the selected primary photon candidate are merged into the candidate with total four momentum equals to the sum of four momenta of all photons in that cone. To suppress background events with such a photon candidate

FIG. 7. In inclusive search mode, the stacked distributions of recoil mass against γ after all cuts for signal events (hatched, in red) and total background events (tiled, in black) in the cases of left-handed beam polarizations (left, signal is scaled by a factor of 1000) and right-handed beam polarizations (right, signal is scaled by a factor of 50).

TABLE III. For inclusive mode, the number of signal and background events after each selection cut together with final significances. The selection cuts are explained in the text. Results for both left and right handed beam polarizations are shown.

Process		eLpR		eRpL			
	before selection	pre-selection	$ \cos \theta_{\gamma} < 0.88$	before selection	pre-selection	$ \cos \theta_{\gamma} < 0.88$	
Signal	3.1×10^{3}	2.9×10^{3}	2.4×10^{3}	9.8×10^{3}	9.1×10^{3}	7.6×10^{3}	
Background	3.0×10^{8}	1.6×10^{7}	6.0×10^{6}	5.6×10^{7}	5.2×10^{6}	1.6×10^{6}	
2f	2.4×10^{8}	1.1×10^{7}	4.8×10^{6}	2.9×10^{7}	2.9×10^{6}	1.1×10^{6}	
4f	5.4×10^{7}	4.7×10^{6}	1.1×10^{6}	2.6×10^{7}	2.3×10^{6}	5.7×10^{5}	
6f	1.4×10^{6}	9.7×10^{4}	3.4×10^{4}	4.8×10^{5}	3.6×10^{4}	1.3×10^{4}	
Significance		1.6σ			9.6σ		

from jets, the selected candidate photon is required to satisfy the isolation criterion, $\frac{E_{\text{cone}}}{E_{\gamma}} < 5\%$, where E_{cone} is the sum of energies from charged particles in a relatively large cone around the primary photon with cosine of the cone angle $\cos \theta_{\text{cone}} = 0.98$, and is then selected as the primary photon.

2. Inclusive mode

In the inclusive mode, most of the background events that survive after the pre-selection are those with one hard photon from ISR. Since the ISR photons are mostly in the forward or backward direction with respects to the electron beam direction, to further suppress the background events, one additional selection cut is applied, which is $|\cos \theta_{\gamma}|$ < 0.88, where θ_{γ} is the polar angle of the selected primary photon. The spectrum of recoil mass against the primary photon is shown in Fig. [7](#page-7-1) as a stacked histogram for remaining signal (in red) and all background (in black) events. For the purpose to visualise the signal shape, the signal component is scaled by a factor of 10 or larger depending on the decay modes throughout all the plots here and after. The number of signal and background events before and after each selection cut together with significances are shown in Table [III](#page-8-0). The efficiencies for background processes are all similar because the ISR effect is not much process dependent. The significance (n_{sig}) after final selection is calculated as $n_{\text{sig}}^2 = \sum_i \frac{S_i^2}{S_i + B_i}$, where S_i and B_i are the number of signal and background events respectively in bin i of the recoil mass spectrum, and the summation of *i* goes over all the bins from 300 to 900 GeV. In the inclusive mode, the final significances for the left and right handed beam polarizations are 1.6σ and 9.6σ , respectively.

3. $X \rightarrow$ invisible *mode*

In the $X \rightarrow$ invisible mode, first of all the same cut $|\cos \theta_{\gamma}|$ < 0.88 is applied after the pre-selection as in the inclusive mode to suppress the background events with a forward or backward hard ISR photon. In addition, since there is no expected visible particle from X reconstructed in the detector, a cut on the visible energy (E_{vis}) is applied, $E_{\rm vis}$ < 60 GeV, where $E_{\rm vis}$ is the sum of energies from all charged final state particles. Here the usage of charge particles only is because there are possibly additional ISR photons in each signal event, and the relatively large cut value of 60 GeV is because of the pile-up of beam induced background events. The spectrum of recoil mass against the primary photon after all selection cuts is shown in Fig. [8](#page-8-1). The background is

FIG. 8. In the case of $X \to$ invisible decays, the stacked distributions of recoil mass against γ after all cuts for signal events (hatched, in red) and total background events (tiled, in black) in the cases of eLpR (left, signal is scaled by a factor of 1000) and eRpL (right, signal is scaled by a factor of 50).

TABLE IV. For $X \rightarrow$ invisible mode, the number of signal and background events after each selection cut together with final significances. The selection cuts are explained in the text. Results for both left and right handed beam polarizations are shown.

	eLpR				eRpL			
Process					before selection pre-selection $ \cos \theta_{\gamma} < 0.88$ $E_{\text{vis}} < 60$ GeV before selection pre-selection $ \cos \theta_{\gamma} < 0.88$ $E_{\text{vis}} < 60$ GeV			
Signal	3.1×10^{3}	2.9×10^{3}	2.4×10^{3}	2.3×10^3	9.8×10^3	9.1×10^3	7.6×10^{3}	7.4×10^{3}
Background	3.0×10^{8}	1.6×10^{7}	6.0×10^{6}	4.0×10^{6}	5.6×10^{7}	5.2×10^{6}	1.6×10^{6}	4.6×10^{5}
2f	2.4×10^{8}	1.1×10^{7}	4.8×10^{6}	3.8×10^{6}	2.9×10^{7}	2.9×10^{6}	1.0×10^{6}	3.8×10^{5}
4f	5.4×10^{7}	4.7×10^{6}	1.1×10^{6}	1.0×10^{5}	2.6×10^{7}	2.3×10^{6}	5.7×10^{5}	7.3×10^{4}
6f	1.4×10^{6}	9.7×10^{4}	3.4×10^{4}	1.6×10^{2}	4.8×10^{5}	3.6×10^{4}	1.3×10^{4}	4.3×10^{1}
Significance	2.0σ				20σ			

dominated by $e^+e^- \rightarrow \nu_e\bar{\nu}_e\gamma$ for the left-handed beam polarizations, and for the right handed beam polarizations is dominated by $e^+e^- \rightarrow \nu \bar{\nu} \gamma$ for all three flavors of neutrinos. The number of signal and background events remaining after each selection cut are shown in Table [IV.](#page-9-0) In the $X \rightarrow$ invisible mode, the final significances for the left and right handed beam polarizations are 2.0σ and 20σ , respectively.

4. $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ mode

In the $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ mode, all the reconstructed particles, except those already selected as the primary photon, are used as input to 2-jets clustering using longitudinal invariant k_T algorithm [\[40\]](#page-12-24) implemented in the FastJet package [\[41\]](#page-12-25) with $R = 1.5$. This step is effective to remove some of the particles which come from the pile-up. The particles remaining after this step are clustered into two jets using Durham jet algorithm [\[42\]](#page-12-26). Each of the two jets is then flavor tagged using LCFIPlus. The output of flavor tagging by LCFIPlus for each jet is a value which is a measure of likelihood that jet is a b jet, and here the output values for the two jets are called *btag₁* and *btag₂*, with *btag₁* > *btag₂*. The following selection cuts are then applied to every event in addition to the pre-selection for the $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ mode:

(i) $N_c > 5$ for each jet, where N_c is the number of charged particles in the jet. This cut is effective to suppress background events with fewer number of particles in the final state such as lepton pair events.

- (ii) $Y_{4\rightarrow 3} < 0.002(0.002)$ and $E_{\text{mis}} < 260(180) \text{ GeV}$, where $Y_{4\rightarrow 3}$ is the smallest Y_{ij} used in Durham jet clustering from 4-jet to 3-jet, and E_{mis} is the missing energy. Hereafter the values are optimised corresponding to right-handed (left-handed) beam polarizations. The $Y_{4\rightarrow 3}$ cut is effective to suppress background events with more than three primary partons such as full hadronic modes of 4f and 6f events.
- (iii) $btag_1 > 0.74(0.77)$ and $btag_2 > 0.1(0.3)$, which are effective to suppress background events without b-jets such as light quark pair events.
- (iv) $|\cos \theta_{\gamma}|$ < 0.95(0.88), which is effective to suppress all background events with small angle ISR photons.
- (v) $M_{bb} > 350(530)$ GeV, where M_{bb} is the invariant mass of the two jets. Since M_{bb} is highly correlated to M_{rec} , this cut just provides small improvement to the overall background suppression.

The spectrum of recoil mass against the primary photon after all the selection cuts except the last cut on M_{bb} is shown in Fig. [9.](#page-9-1) The background is dominated by $e^+e^- \rightarrow b\bar{b}\gamma$. The number of signal and background events remaining after each selection cut is shown in Table [V](#page-10-1) for the left-handed beam polarizations and in Table [VI](#page-10-2) for the right-handed

FIG. 9. For $X \to b\bar{b}$, the stacked distributions of recoil mass against γ after all cuts for signal events (hatched, in red) and total background events (tiled, in black) in the cases of eLpR (left, signal is scaled by a factor of 10) and eRpL (right, signal is scaled by a factor of 10).

TABLE V. For $X \to b\bar{b}$ mode and eLpR, the number of signal and background events after each selection cut together with final significances. The selection cuts are explained in the text.

Process	Before selection	Preselection	$N_i > 5$	$Y_{4\rightarrow 3} < 0.002$ $E_{\text{mis}} < 180 \text{ GeV}$	<i>btag</i> ₁ > 0.77 <i>btag</i> ₂ > 0.3	$ \cos \theta_{\gamma} < 0.88$	$M_{hh} > 530 \text{ GeV}$
Signal	3.1×10^{3}	2.7×10^3	2.6×10^{3}	2.0×10^3	1.5×10^{3}	1.3×10^{3}	1.1×10^{3}
Background	3.0×10^{8}	1.3×10^{7}	1.2×10^{6}	4.4×10^{5}	5.2×10^{4}	2.8×10^{4}	3.5×10^{3}
2f	2.4×10^{8}	8.1×10^{6}	5.0×10^{5}	3.1×10^5	5.0×10^{4}	2.6×10^{4}	2.6×10^{3}
4f	5.4×10^{7}	4.6×10^{6}	6.0×10^{5}	1.3×10^{5}	1.6×10^{3}	6.4×10^{2}	3.2×10^{2}
6f	1.4×10^{6}	9.7×10^{4}	5.2×10^{4}	4.8×10^{3}	1.3×10^{3}	7.0×10^{2}	5.6×10^{2}
Significance				23σ			

TABLE VI. For $X \to b\bar{b}$ mode and eRpL, the number of signal and background events after each selection cut together with final significances. The selection cuts are explained in the text.

beam polarizations. In the $X \to b\bar{b}$ mode, the final significances for the left- and right-handed beam polarizations are 23 σ and 62 σ , respectively.

V. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

We have performed a realistic simulation for $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ with full detector simulation. We have shown that assuming an integrated luminosity of 2 ab^{-1} at the ILC, without assuming the decay modes, the cross section of $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ for eRpL $(\sigma(X\gamma)_R)$ can be measured to 10%. In the case that the decay is dominated by $X \rightarrow$ invisible, using the righthanded beam polarizations $\sigma(X\gamma)_R \times BR(X \to \text{invisible})$ can be measured to 5%. If $X \rightarrow bb$ dominates the decay, $\sigma(X\gamma)_R \times BR(X \to b\bar{b})$ can be measured to 1.6% and $\sigma(X\gamma)_L \times BR(X \to b\bar{b})$ (for eLpR) can be measured to 4.3%. BR($X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$) can be extracted by two measurements of $\sigma(X\gamma)_R$ and $\sigma(X\gamma)_R \times BR(X \to bb)$, which together with $\sigma(X\gamma)_L \times BR(X \to b\bar{b})$ can be used to further extract $\sigma(X\gamma)_I$. Then the absolute values of the effective couplings to $SU(2)_L$ and $U(1)_Y$ fields can be measured separately.

The results also can be given in terms of the range of $\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}$ that allows ILC to detect X with more than 5σ significance. Interestingly enough, if $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ is the dominant decay mode, the range $\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma} > 30$ MeV ($\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma}/M_X > 4 \times 10^{-5}$) can be explored at the ILC, which covers the full allowed range if the diphoton resonance is dominantly produced by $b\bar{b}$ fusion at the LHC [\[5\].](#page-12-2)

To summarize, we have investigated the prospects of diphoton resonance studies in $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma/XZ$ at the ILC. Within the framework of the effective Lagrangian for spin-0 hypothesis, we have investigated the production cross sections as well as the angular distributions of the processes and found that these are useful to determine the properties of the resonance, such as its mass, spin, parity, total decay width, and absolute values of effective couplings to the $SU(2)_L$ and $U(1)_Y$ gauge fields. A realistic simulation for $e^+e^- \rightarrow X\gamma$ assuming the large decay width has been performed based on full detector simulation. Complementary to the searches at the LHC, the absolute values of production cross sections can be measured at the ILC using recoil technique without assuming decay modes of X. In addition, we have shown that the measurement at the ILC is capable of the searches for $X \rightarrow$ invisible and $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decays with high sensitivities. It should be emphasised that the studies presented here are generic and applicable to any similar new particles which couple to γγ even if the diphoton resonance turns out to be a statistical fluctuation, and hence remain useful.

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Note added.—During this manuscript was under review, new experimental data which were collected at the LHC in 2016 were analyzed by the ATLAS and CMS Collaborations, and the diphoton resonance at $M_X \sim$ 750 GeV suggested by the 2015 data turned out to be most likely a statistical flucturation [\[43,44\]](#page-12-27). Although numerical studies done in this paper focus on the 750 GeV resonance as a case study, as we have stated in the main text, our analysis is applicable to any resonance which couples to diphoton. If there still exists a resonance with relatively low mass (several hundreds GeV), the resonance should have small branching ratio to diphoton or other dibosons in order to avoid the LHC constraints. On the other hand, to have sizable cross section at the ILC, the resonance should have large coupling to dibosons. Therefore, the resonance which could be explored at the ILC has a large decay width with small branching ratios to dibosons, but the other modes such as the invisible decay or the *bb* decay modes may dominate. Thus, the search strategy which we have studied in this paper is useful for the future possible resonance by adjusting the detailed numbers of signal and background rates accordingly. In the case where a resoance is heavier than the collision energy, the cross section is expected to be small due to the off-shell suppression. We refer the readers to the comprehensive analysis of the indirect searches for the physics related to the diphoton resonance [\[45\]](#page-12-28).

APPENDIX A: PARTIAL DECAY WIDTHS OF X

In this appendix, we present the partial decay widths of X into pairs of SM gauge bosons based on the effective Lagrangians in Eqs. [\(1\)](#page-1-4) and [\(8\).](#page-1-5) For the scalar case, the partial decay widths are calculated to be

$$
\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma} = \frac{M_X^3}{64\pi} \left(\frac{c_\gamma}{\Lambda}\right)^2,\tag{A1}
$$

$$
\Gamma_{\gamma Z} = \frac{M_X^3}{128\pi} \left(\frac{c_{\gamma Z}}{\Lambda}\right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{M_Z^2}{M_X^2}\right)^3,\tag{A2}
$$

$$
\Gamma_{ZZ} = \frac{M_X^3}{64\pi} \left(\frac{c_Z}{\Lambda}\right)^2 \beta_Z \left(1 - 4\frac{M_Z^2}{M_X^2} + 6\frac{M_Z^4}{M_X^4}\right),\tag{A3}
$$

$$
\Gamma_{WW} = \frac{M_X^3}{128\pi} \left(\frac{c_W}{\Lambda}\right)^2 \beta_W \left(1 - 4\frac{M_W^2}{M_X^2} + 6\frac{M_W^4}{M_X^4}\right),\tag{A4}
$$

$$
\Gamma_{gg} = \frac{M_X^3}{8\pi} \left(\frac{c_g}{\Lambda}\right)^2,\tag{A5}
$$

where $\beta_V = \sqrt{1 - 4M_V^2/M_X^2}$ for $V = W$, Z.

For the pseudoscalar case, the partial decay widths are calculated to be

$$
\Gamma_{\gamma\gamma} = \frac{M_X^3}{64\pi} \left(\frac{\tilde{c}_\gamma}{\Lambda}\right)^2,\tag{A6}
$$

$$
\Gamma_{\gamma Z} = \frac{M_X^3}{128\pi} \left(\frac{\tilde{c}_{\gamma Z}}{\Lambda}\right)^2 \left(1 - \frac{M_Z^2}{M_X^2}\right)^3, \tag{A7}
$$

$$
\Gamma_{ZZ} = \frac{M_X^3}{64\pi} \left(\frac{\tilde{c}_Z}{\Lambda}\right)^2 \beta_Z^3, \tag{A8}
$$

$$
\Gamma_{WW} = \frac{M_X^3}{128\pi} \left(\frac{\tilde{c}_W}{\Lambda}\right)^2 \beta_W^3, \tag{A9}
$$

$$
\Gamma_{gg} = \frac{M_X^3}{8\pi} \left(\frac{\tilde{c}_g}{\Lambda}\right)^2.
$$
\n(A10)

APPENDIX B: LEPTON ANGULAR DISTRIBUTIONS

The lepton angular distribution in the decay of $Z \rightarrow$ $l^-\ell^+$ in e^+e^- → XZ is expressed by using the 6 structure functions $F_i(s, \cos \theta)$ for $i = 1$ to 6 as

$$
\mathcal{D}(\lambda_V; \theta, \hat{\theta}, \hat{\phi}) = \frac{9}{128\pi\mathcal{F}} [F_1(1 + \cos^2\hat{\theta}) + F_2(1 - 3\cos^2\hat{\theta}) \n+ F_3 \sin 2\hat{\theta} \cos \hat{\phi} + F_4 \sin^2\hat{\theta} \cos 2\hat{\phi} \n+ F_5 \cos \hat{\theta} + F_6 \sin \hat{\theta} \cos \hat{\phi}].
$$
\n(B1)

For the scalar case,

$$
F_1 = \left(\beta_Z^2 + \frac{4M_Z^2}{s}\right)(1 + \cos^2\theta) + \frac{4M_Z^2}{s}\sin^2\theta,
$$

\n
$$
F_2 = \frac{4M_Z^2}{s}\sin^2\theta,
$$

\n
$$
F_3 = -\frac{4M_Z}{\sqrt{s}}\sqrt{\beta_Z^2 + \frac{4M_Z^2}{s}}\cos\theta\sin\theta,
$$

\n
$$
F_4 = \left(\beta_Z^2 + \frac{4M_Z^2}{s}\right)\sin^2\theta,
$$

\n
$$
F_5 = 4\lambda_V\xi\left(\beta_Z^2 + \frac{4M_Z^2}{s}\right)\cos\theta,
$$

\n
$$
F_6 = -8\lambda_V\xi\frac{M_Z}{\sqrt{s}}\sqrt{\beta_Z^2 + \frac{4M_Z^2}{s}}\sin\theta,
$$
 (B2)

with $\mathcal{F} = \beta_Z^2 + 6M_Z^2/s$ and ξ is defined in Eq. [\(37\).](#page-5-1) For the pseudoscalar case, $\mathcal{F} = 1$ and

$$
F_1 = 1 + \cos^2 \theta
$$
, $F_2 = F_3 = F_6 = 0$,
\n $F_4 = -\sin^2 \theta$, $F_5 = 4\lambda_V \xi \cos \theta$. (B3)

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